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Letter dated 6 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on the agreement between the political parties and the Maoists in Nepal, issued on 5 December 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Emyr **Jones Parry**
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom
to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 6 December 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on the agreement between the political parties and the Maoists in Nepal issued on 5 December 2005 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union recognizes the effort of the political parties in Nepal in securing an agreement with the Maoists, which could form the basis for a peace process in Nepal. The European Union will be considering in detail the announcements made by the political parties and the Maoists.

The European Union welcomed the announcement of a unilateral ceasefire in September. At the same time the European Union also urged the Maoists to take concrete steps towards a permanent end to the use of violence for political ends. The agreement between the parties and the Maoists seems to make some positive moves in that direction.

The European Union continues to support a transition of the Maoists into a mainstream political party, but reiterates its belief that such a process must entail a firm commitment by the Maoists to renounce violence, including by putting its weapons verifiably beyond use. As a first step, the European Union calls on the Maoists to extend their present ceasefire and to work to create the right conditions for peace talks to resume.

As the Troika said in October, the European Union urges the King to reach out to the political parties to develop a common agenda for a full return to multiparty democracy. To this end, the European Union urges the King and the Government of Nepal to call a truce and begin serious engagement on a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

The European Union repeats its readiness to support a meaningful peace process.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia continues to be a part of the stabilization and association process.